

## PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION

### *SPECIAL PUBLIC DEFENDER SUPERVISION & EVALUATION*

In order to insure that individual Special Public Defenders are providing adequate and quality representation to indigent clients, the Director of Special Public Defenders shall monitor the performance of Special Public Defenders on an ongoing basis by the following methods:

1. Conduct periodic visits to the various courts for purposes of observing attorneys in court in the performance of their responsibilities as Special Public Defenders.
2. Annually survey the supervising attorneys of all public defender offices as to the performance and reliability of individual contract and non-contract Special Public Defenders.
3. Periodically inquire of judges in the various courts as to the quality of the representation and advocacy provided by individual Special Public Defenders, and their reliability in performing their responsibilities on behalf of their clients.
4. Evaluate the trial skills of individual Special Public Defenders on an on-going basis through personal observation, review of transcripts and/or discussions with trial judges.
5. In consultation with the Chief of Legal Services, evaluate the representation provided by Special Public Defenders handling appeals, including the quality of briefs filed and oral arguments in individual cases.
6. In consultation with the Chief of Habeas Corpus Services, evaluate the representation provided by Special Public Defenders handling habeas corpus matters, including pleadings, case preparation and trial advocacy.
7. In consultation with the Chief of Capital Defense & Trial Services, evaluate the representation provided by Special Public Defenders in capital cases, including the raising of legal issues appropriate to a capital case, case preparation, and advocacy at trial and penalty phase.

8. Review all complaints and habeas corpus petitions filed against Special Public Defenders for indications of any problems or patterns of poor performance on the part of an individual Special Public Defender.
9. Review all grievances filed against a Special Public Defender in which probable cause has been found.
10. Make recommendations to the Standing Committee on Special Public Defenders for the removal of attorneys from the list of approved SPD contractors as a result of unsatisfactory performance.
11. Make recommendations to the Chief Public Defender for removal of attorneys from the list of attorneys available to accept appointments pursuant to §51-291(11), C.G.S. as a result of unsatisfactory performance.

*Adopted June 15, 1999*

